

PLEASE AMEND THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
  - a. an atmospheric pressure ion source for producing ions for delivery into vacuum;
  - b. a vacuum system housing attached to means for pumping away gas to form said vacuum; and,
  - c. a removable insert assembly which includes at least three vacuum pumping stage partitions for maintaining ~~three~~ at least four vacuum stages in said apparatus when said insert assembly is inserted into said vacuum system housing; and
  - d. at least one ion guide configured as part of said removable insert assembly
- 2 (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said removable insert assembly includes an ion optics assembly.
- 3 (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a mass analyzer
- 4 (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said mass analyzer further comprises a detector
- 5 (Original) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said mass analyzer is configured as a part of said removable insert assembly
- 6 (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a detector.
- 7 (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said apparatus further comprises a mass analyzer, and said mass analyzer is configured as a part of said removable insert assembly.